

# Request for Proposals from 3i Initiative Faculty Teams

Issued by: The Immunology, Inflammation, and Infectious Disease (3i) Initiative

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Full Proposals Due: February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## 3i Initiative 2024 Team Development Grant

### Purpose:

The Immunology, Inflammation, and Infectious Disease (3i) Initiative at the University of Utah is pleased to announce a request for proposals to support *the establishment of research teams* in the process of solidifying collaboration activities needed for an extramural team science grant application. The goal of this program is to establish and support the development of these new teams and provide resources to help produce preliminary data that may be used in the future for team science extramural funding applications.

The 3i Initiative will provide one year of funding. By the end of the funding period, emerging teams should have demonstrated progress through the production of research that will be utilized in a publication or funding application within 2 years.

### Research Scope:

We invite applications from all areas of 3i that are hypothesis-driven and will lead to competitive extramural multi-PI grant applications. Areas of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Antimicrobial Resistance
- Burn Injury
- Behavioral Dimensions of 3i
- Fibrosis
- Global Health
- Interventions to Prevent Infection or Inflammation.
- Immunity in the CNS
- Immuno-oncology
- Immunometabolism
- Mucosal Immunity and Microbiota
- Primary Immune Deficiency
- Pulmonary Inflammation
- Racial/Ethnic Disparities of 3i
- Role of Human Behavior in 3i Topics
- Sepsis
- Social Science and Public Health Dimensions of 3i
- T-cells and Vaccines
- Thromboinflammation
- Tumor Immunity
- Viral Infection

### Proposal Guidelines:

- Proposals must be a collaborative effort amongst at least **three** independent investigators at the UofU with each contributing substantially to the scientific development and execution of the project.
- All primary applicants (PIs) must be at least 0.75 FTE tenure-track faculty or 0.75 FTE clinical/research faculty at the University of Utah/VA.

**Immunology, Inflammation, and Infectious Disease (3i) Initiative**

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## Proposal Preferences:

Preference will be given to applications that:

- Include UU clinical investigators with demonstrable partnership activities
- Have significant intellectual merit
- Have a high potential for the identified extramural funding opportunity
- Strengthen interdisciplinary partnerships within the University of Utah 3i community

## Application Instructions:

Applications and all supporting documents should be submitted electronically through the University of Utah's Competition Space interface at <http://utah.infoready4.com/> by February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

### Applications must include:

1. A lay abstract for the general public (up to a ½ page). Please make sure to address the significance of the proposed project and how these funds will help future research efforts. For help with a lay abstract, see: [Dubé, C.E. & Lapane, K.L. J Canc Educ \(2014\) 29: 577.   
https://doi.org/10.1007/s13187-013-0570-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13187-013-0570-1)
2. A brief proposal (1 page, plus references on additional pages as needed). Please address Significance, Innovation (include proposed role/contributions for each team member and investigator synergy), and Approach.
3. A plan for extramural funding (up to a ½ page). This plan must speak to specific plans including funding mechanism/call, a group plan for the next 5-10 years, leadership plan and collaborative group meeting plan (including evidence of success for currently meeting groups).
4. Biographical sketch for each co-investigator (5 pages max).
5. Current and pending support for each co-investigator.
6. If human subjects or animal research is involved, provide one copy of the IRB or IACUC confirmation. IRB and any required IACUC approvals must be in place before funds are released, but not required for submission.
7. Proposed project budget (not to exceed \$50,000), following the guidelines below. Please describe in the budget document how funds will be distributed between investigators. (Note, funds will be distributed from the SVPHS Research Unit to a single PI on each grant for further distribution to the rest of the collaboration)

Items 1-7 must be submitted as one PDF.

## Budget Guidelines:

Funding is available for salaries and fringe benefits of post-doctoral fellows, students, technicians, and other non-faculty project personnel, supplies, miscellaneous expenses, and services. Grant funds cannot be used for faculty salaries (summer or academic year); travel (e.g., conferences cannot be supported by this grant); consultants; or office equipment, including computers (unless specifically justified). Please prepare a one-page budget with maximum direct costs of \$50,000 for one year of support. The budget template on Competition Space (<https://utah.infoready4.com/>) is not required but may be used for this purpose.

## Review and Funding of Proposals:

Proposals will be reviewed by the 3i Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to assess innovation, scientific merit, collaboration, and alignment with the vision of the 3i. (<http://uofuhealth.utah.edu/immunology-inflammation-infectious-diseases/>). Applicants will be informed of the status of their proposal within ~2 months of the submission deadline, with funding to begin on or around April 1st, 2024, and after appropriate IRB/IACUC approvals are in place. Maximum funding per project is \$50,000, with a project term of one year. Budgets may be reduced as the SAB or 3i leadership sees fit. Unused funds must be returned to the 3i Initiative after one year. However, recipients can submit, no later than two months before the one-year deadline, an explanation of why the funds have not been spent and a plan to spend out the grant after the one-year deadline. In such cases, the SAB will decide if additional time will be allowed. Grant administration is the responsibility of the Principal Investigators.

### **Final Report:**

At the end of the project period and for at least the following three years, funded proposals must provide a progress report. Formatting details will be provided closer to the due date of the report. Also, a presentation at either the annual symposium or an 3i Initiative seminar is expected and will be coordinated by 3i administrative staff after the conclusion of the funding cycle.

*Questions? Please contact:* Nicole Frank ([Nicole.Frank@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:Nicole.Frank@hsc.utah.edu))